

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claim 20 as follows.

1. (Previously Presented) A pan head apparatus comprising:
 - a head unit for mounting a camera;
 - a base unit having a stationary portion, a rotating mechanism, and a rotary portion which is rotated with respect to said stationary portion by said rotating mechanism;
 - a connecting member which pivotally connects said head unit and said rotary portion of said base unit; and
 - a detector which detects whether or not said head unit is set in an upright state with respect to said base unit by pivot motion of said connecting member, wherein when said detector detects that said head unit is in the upright state, rotation of said rotary portion by said rotating mechanism is permitted.
2. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a camera unit pivotally mounted on said head unit,
 - wherein a state wherein said base unit, said head unit, and said camera unit are placed substantially flat side by side can be assumed.
3. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein in said base unit, part of said stationary portion forms a rotation center shaft portion of said rotary portion.

4. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 3, wherein a tripod attaching portion is formed on said rotation center shaft portion.

5. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 3, further comprising a round disk-like cap member fixed to said rotation center shaft portion and exposed to an upper surface of said base unit, wherein an operation switch is arranged on said cap member.

6. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 3, wherein
said rotary portion forms an upper surface of said base unit,
a round disk-like cap member is fixed to said rotation center shaft portion and exposed to the upper surface of said base unit to cover part of said rotary portion, and
a scale to show a rotation amount is formed on either one of said cap member and said rotary portion, and a mark for indicating the scale is formed on the remaining one of said cap member and said rotary portion.

7. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein a shutter release button is arranged on said head unit.

Claim 8. (Cancelled).

9. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said rotating mechanism includes

a motor which is mounted on said stationary portion to generate a rotation force,

a transmitting mechanism to transmit the rotation force of said motor to said rotary portion, and

a torque limiter formed in a transmission path of the rotation force in said transmitting mechanism.

Claims 10-18. (Cancelled).

19. (Previously Presented) A pan head apparatus according to claim 1, wherein when said detector detects that said head unit is not in the upright state, rotation of said rotary portion by said rotating mechanism is prohibited.

20. (Currently Amended) A pan head apparatus comprising:

a head unit for mounting a camera;

a base unit having a stationary portion and a rotary portion which is placed over the stationary portion and rotated with respect to said stationary portion around a first axis; and

a connecting member which pivotally connects said head unit and said rotary portion of said base unit around a second axis perpendicular to the first axis, so that said head unit can have a laid down state in which said head unit and said base unit are placed side by side, and an upright state in which said head unit is perpendicular to said base unit.

wherein ~~said head unit has a laid down state in which~~ said head unit physically interferes with said stationary portion of said base unit and prohibits said rotary portion from rotating in said laid down state, and ~~an upright state in which~~ said head unit does not physically interfere with said base unit when said rotary portion rotates in said upright state.